Pine Creek/Sulphurbeds Allotment: Dipping Vat Spring

Mary O'Brien Grand Canyon Trust

Dipping Vat Spring is a currently un-used sheep watering trough, with a pipe disconnected to a watering trough, and trampled, incised, over-grazed spring-seep wetlands below (Fig. 1). The land adjacent to the wetlands is overgrazed (Fig. 2) During 2008, the Cove Creek Pasture is being rested, and shows the potential for restoration of the wetlands (Fig. 3) via fencing, and piping of water further downslope.

Major concerns:

- Violation of riparian utilization standards
- Isolation of the wetlands from the surrounding slopes through trampling, incision
- Reduction of wetland diversity; lower-elevation wetlands are rare

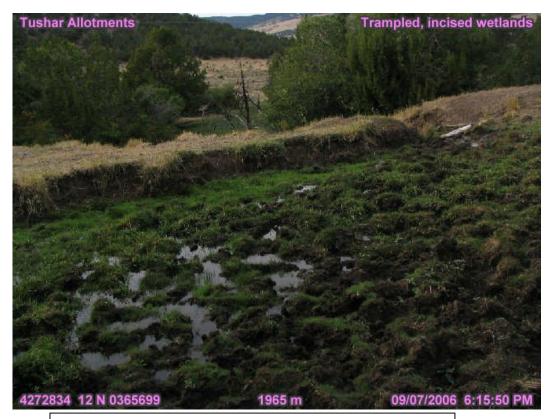


Fig. 1 Pine Creek/Sulphurbeds: Wetlands below Dipping Vat Spring (in 2006; pasture was rested in 2008)



Fig. 2. PineCrk/Sulphurbeds: Denuded slope above incised Dipping Vat Springs wetlands (2006)



Fig. 3. Dipping Vat Spring wetland during a year it is rested. Tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia caespitosa*) a wetland grass. Shows potential for protection of the wetland.